

REMARKS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the careful review of this application. Claims 4-5, 11-12, 16-17, 21-22, 44 and 47-51 were previously canceled without prejudice and a second claim 38, between original claims 39 and 40, was also previously canceled without prejudice. In this response, claims 1-3, 6-10, 13-15, 18-20, 41-43 and 45-46 were additionally canceled without prejudice. Therefore, claims 23-40 remain pending in this application.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Applicant thanks the Examiner for noting the presence of allowable subject matter in this application, specifically claims 23-40. Claims 1-3, 6-10, 13-15, 18-20, 41-43 and 45-46 were canceled without prejudice only for purposes of expediting the prosecution of this invention. This amendment is not a narrowing amendment nor was it done for purposes of patentability. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections of the original, amended and canceled claims and reserves the right to re-introduce them and claims of an equivalent scope in a continuation application.

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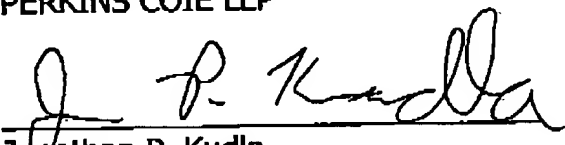
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CONCLUSION

Applicant believes that all pending claims are allowable and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes that a conference would be of value in expediting the prosecution of this application, he is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned counsel at the number set out below.

Respectfully submitted,
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